2023 HURRICANE EVACUATION GUIDE



Hurricane Evacuation

Hurricane Evacuation Tips

When hurricanes are approaching, don't take chances. Know before you go and stay informed.

- Know where you'll go, whether it's a family member's house, hotel or shelter.
- Know your primary evacuation route and have a secondary route planned as a backup. [See evacuation map on reverse side.]
- To avoid congestion on Hwy 49, consider taking an alternate evacuation route.
- Make arrangements for your pets. (Pets are NOT allowed in most shelters.)
- Seek information from local officials regarding road closures and additional emergency information.
- Fill up your gas tank and have cash on hand.
- Download the MDOT Traffic App to get real time, location-based notifications about road conditions, weather and more.
- Take your time and be patient!

Hurricane Evacuation Routes

From Jackson County:

- Hwy 57 to Hwy 45N at state line to I-20 at Meridian
- Hwy 57 to Hwy 98W at McLain to Hwy 15N to I-20 at Newton
- Hwy 63 to Hwy 57N to Hwy 45N to I-20 at Meridian
- I-10 eastbound to Alabama/Florida or westbound to Louisiana/I-59N

From Hwy 49 Below Hattiesburg:

Traveling East

At Wiggins, take Hwy 29N to I-59 at Ellisville to I-20 at Meridian

■ Traveling West

At Wiggins, take Hwy 26W to Hwy 43N to Hwy 13N*

From Harrison County:

- Hwy 53 to Hwy 26W at Poplarville to Hwy 43N to Hwy 13N*
- Hwy 15 to Hwy 26E to Hwy 57N to Hwy 45N at State Line to I-20 at Meridian
- Hwy 15 to Hwy 26W to Hwy 43N then to Hwy 13N*
- Hwy 67 to Hwy 49N to Hwy 26, then either eastbound or westbound

From Hancock County:

- Hwy 43 to Hwy 13N*
- Hwy 603N to Hwy 53N to Hwy 26W to Hwy 43N to Hwy 13N*
- I-10W to I-59N to I-20 at Meridian

*Options at Highway 13

Hwy 13N to I-20 at Morton or Hwy 13N to Hwy 28W to Hwy 27N to I-55 or onto I-20 at Vicksburg

Contact Information

MDOT

1-866-521-MDOT (1-866-521-6368) www.GoMDOT.com

MS Highway Patrol

601-987-1212 (***HP** from any cell) www.dps.ms.gov

MEMA

1-800-222-MEMA (1-800-222-6362) www.msema.org

Lodging (Mississippi Tourism)

1-866-SEE-MISS (1-866-733-6477) www.visitmississippi.org

Campsites

[MS Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks]
1-800-GO-PARKS
[Park Reservations 1-800-467-2757]
www.mdwfp.com

Animal Shelters

(MS Board of Animal Health) 1-888-646-8731 www.mbah.state.ms.us

MS Animal Disaster Hotline

1-888-722-3106

MS Department of Health

1-866-458-4948 www.HealthyMS.com

MS Insurance Department

601-359-3569 www.mid.ms.gov

MS Division of Medicaid

1-800-421-2408 www.medicaid.ms.gov

United Way

601-948-4725 www.myunitedway.com

Louisiana DOTD

877-4LA-DOTD (1-877-452-3683) www.emergency.louisiana.gov

Louisiana State Police

1-800-469-4828 www.lsp.org

Alabama DOT

334-353-6554 www.dot.state.al.us

Alabama Highway Patrol

334-242-4393

www.ALEA.gov/DPS/highway-patrol

Arkansas HTD

501-569-2374

www.arkansashighways.com

Arkansas State Police

501-618-8000

www.asp.arkansas.gov

Tennessee DOT

877-244-0065 smartway.tn.gov

Tennessee Highway Patrol

615-741-3181

*847 (within Tennessee) www.tn.gov/safety

Georgia DOT

877-694-2511 511ga.org

Georgia State Patrol

800-436-7442 dps.georgia.gov

Florida DOT

850-414-4100 www.fdot.gov

Florida Highway Patrol

1-800-459-6861 www.FL511.com

American Red Cross

1-866-GET-INFO (1-866-438-4636) www.redcross.org/mississippi Note: phone number is only active during crisis situations

FEMA

1-800-621-FEMA (1-800-621-3362) www.fema.gov and www.disasterassistance.gov

FEMA Shelter Information

Text "shelter" and your ZIP code to 43362 for a list of shelters within 200 miles of your location.

Contraflow Plans

Radio Coverage Areas

Interstates 59 and 55 Contraflow Plans

To assist the state of Louisiana, MDOT will implement contraflow (all lanes flow northbound) for both I-59 and I-55 when requested by Louisiana and approved by the Governor of Mississippi. Category III, IV or V hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico might prompt a mandatory evacuation of the greater New Orleans area. (Contraflow operations *cannot* be considered on Highway 49).

- The decision to contraflow is NOT automatic and will only be used when absolutely necessary. Citizens should not delay evacuation in anticipation of contraflow.
- The I-59 contraflow operations will begin in Louisiana, extend into Mississippi, and end just south of Hattiesburg.
- The I-55 contraflow operations will begin in Louisiana, extend into Mississippi, and end just south of Brookhaven.
- All exits within the contraflowed sections of the interstate highways will remain open as traffic conditions allow. Law Enforcement Officers will be present to assist with traffic control.
- The shoulders of both I-59 and I-55 should be kept clear for emergency vehicles. Motorists who need to stop should use the next available exit.
- Hancock County residents traveling westbound to Louisiana on I-10 will be routed North onto I-59 at the I-10/I-12 split.
- Tune in to Mississippi Public Broadcasting radio stations for emergency information and updated road conditions (see Radio Coverage Areas).



Mississippi Public Broadcasting FM Radio

Hattiesburg Traffic Control

MDOT will enforce the following procedures in the Hattiesburg area to avoid severe congestion at the intersections of three major routes.

- Northbound traffic on Hwy 49 may NOT be allowed to exit at either Hwy 98 or I-59.
- Northbound traffic on I-59 can ONLY exit at Hwy 11 [Exit 60] or West on Hardy Street/Hwy 98 [Exit 65].
- **Westbound traffic on Hwy 98** may NOT be allowed to exit onto Hwy 49, but directed to merge onto I-59 instead.

